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CAPITAL LETTER:

LBJ's Reshuffling Full of Surprises

By RUTH MONTGOMERY

WASHINGTON: Capitantes returning from mid-Summer vacations are discovering that they need a new scorecard to keep up with the players.

Coach Lyndon B. Johnson has sent in so many substitutes recently that, as the TV sports announcers are fond of saying, "Folks, it's a new ball game."

Seldom have so many top players been so rapidly reshuffled, except during a change of administrations. To add to the heady excitement of today's phenomena, LBJ has been able to maintain his remarkable capacity for surprise, in a ballpark that usually leaks like a sieve.

Washingtonians had no sooner accustomed themselves to greeting Arthur Goldberg as "Mr. Justice" in stead of "Mr. Secretary" than he suddenly became "Mr. Ambassador," and moved on to the United Nations.

By the time news writers began remembering that Celebrezze has two z's instead of a double e, out went Tony as Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and in came 52-year-old John William Gardner from the Carnegie Corporation.

Carl Rowan, the highest ranking Negro in government, who had been serving as ambassador to Finland until President Johnson recalled him, to head the U.S. Information Agency, has bowed out and been replaced by Lady Bird's TV lawyer, Leonard T. Marks. We also have a new director for the Voice of



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America program in the personage of NBC commentator John W. Chancellor.

To replace Archibald Cox as Solicitor General, LBJ named an outstanding Negro, Judge Thurgood Marshall. Maj. James U. Cross has succeeded Maj. Gen. Chester V. Clifton as military aide to the President, and Maj. Hugh Robinson, a Negro, is the President's new Army assistant.

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GEORGE REEDY, LBJ's perennial news aide who replaced poly-poly Pierre Salinger as White House press secretary, has taken indefinite leave to have a series of operations for hammer-toes, and Bill Moyers, a Baptist preacher from Texas is now running interference for newsmen with the Prexy.

Abe Fortas, LBJ's long-time attorney and confidante, has been named to fill Mr. Goldberg's Supreme Court seat.

We have a raft of new assistant secretaries, Federal judges and ambassadors in recent weeks, including Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. who both preceded and succeeded Gen. Maxwell Taylor.

President Johnson has made four changes to date in the ten-man Cabinet inherited from President Kennedy. Besides Gardner-for-Celebrezze we have Henry H. Fowler for Douglas Dillon at Treasury, Nicholas de B. Katzenbach for Robert F. Kennedy at Justice, and John T. Connor for Luther Hodges at Commerce.

Vice-Admiral William F. Raborn succeeded John A. McCone as head of the hush-hush Central Intelligence Agency; and CIA economics expert Dr. Penelope Thunberg has now landed on the U.S. Tariff Commission.

So far as can be learned at this writing we still have the same Vice President and Chief Justice, but one thing Washingtonians have learned about Lyndon Baines Johnson is never to take anything for granted. He likes to keep those umpires guessin'.

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